

# Newsletter

DIVISION OF CLINICAL AND ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGY

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## NOTICE

The address for the Office of the Secretary will continue for the year at 36 Veranda Place, Brooklyn 2, New York.

## INVITATION TO PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

The Program Committee has begun its planning for the Penn State APA meeting along the lines which were indicated by the membership for the Denver meeting, where there was a reduction in the emphasis upon routine presentation of research papers, and an increase in emphasis upon carefully planned symposia and round tables, upon discussion of cases raising diagnostic and therapeutic issues, and upon invited papers. Members of our Division are invited to submit proposals for the Division program at the Penn State meeting to be held in September 1950. Specific proposals of the following sorts will be welcomed by your Program Committee.

1. Proposals for symposia or round-tables, suggesting the title, area of specific emphasis, names of possible participants, and preference as to chairmen. The responsibility for organizing symposia and round-tables, of course, must rest with your Program Committee, as it does in relation to other aspects of the Program. Symposia or round-tables may focus upon problems primarily professional in character, or upon technical or theoretical problems in clinical psychology. They may be proposed as joint symposia with some other Division. The professional symposia will probably be held in an all-day pre-conference session on professional problems in clinical psychology.
2. Proposals for a presentation of therapeutic procedures. It is planned tentatively that a total of 2 hours be devoted to the presentation and discussion. The Committee is again including this type of meeting because of the great demand for more specifically illustrated discussions of therapeutic techniques, and because of the generally favorable reaction suggested by the questionnaire returns at the Denver meeting. It may again be necessary to run some of these presentations of different therapeutic orientations concurrently. In submitting proposals, much thought should be given to effective methods of presentation. Recordings, for example, while very valuable for some presentations, are rarely of a quality that can be heard distinctly by a sizable audience. It would be quite appropriate for a group of people to present and discuss a therapeutic procedure they have been using.
3. Proposals for demonstration of newer diagnostic procedures in any appropriate fashion. A total of 2 hours would be devoted to such demonstration-discussion meetings. A number of such demonstrations may be planned; but it may be necessary again to run some of them concurrently because of time limitations.
4. Abstracts of research papers may be submitted, although no final deadline will be set until the official call for papers is issued by the Program Committee of the APA. These abstracts must not exceed 300 words in length. They should give the problem, population, method, results and conclusions of the study. There should be 3 legible carbon copies

in addition to the original. The name of the contributor should not appear on the abstract; it should be on a sheet of paper clipped to the material. 12 minutes will be allowed for presentation of each paper. Your Committee will attempt to make a rigorous selection of the research papers submitted.

5. Theoretical and discursive papers should be submitted in their complete form, as it has proved very difficult to evaluate these from abstracts alone. They should be accompanied by an abstract, in quadruplicate, of not more than 300 words, suitable for publication in the program. The contributor's name should not appear on the manuscript but should be handled as in (4) above. The request that a completed paper be submitted is in no way intended to limit the number of theoretical or discursive papers, but only to provide a suitable basis for choosing among them.

6. Proposals of topics for interest groups. It is planned to devote one afternoon to meetings in which those with similar interests may get together for informal discussion and mutual acquaintance. The proposal should give the topic for the interest group, and a list of at least 10 persons to be invited as a nucleus for the group, with one or more suggestions for chairmen. It is believed that it should be useful in giving Division members with common interests a chance to know what is going on in their specialty and to meet others who are working along similar lines. There will be no prepared papers at such sessions but a chance to raise questions and to learn what each of the group is doing and thinking.

7. Your Committee would like also to receive suggestions for making the meetings more useful and interesting to the membership. Proposals for new methods of presenting current issues will be particularly appreciated. Frank appraisals of the Denver type of program will be welcomed from anyone who attended the meetings there.

The Committee invites preliminary correspondence on any aspects of organization or presentation. Papers of concrete proposals for symposia, etc., should be submitted in quadruplicate to the Chairman of the Program Committee, Norman Cameron, 3507 Sunset Drive, Madison 5, Wisconsin.

Noble H. Kelley

Victor C. Rainy

Norman Cameron, Chairman, Program Committee

#### MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS, PROCEDURES & POLICIES OF THE DIV. OF CLINICAL & ABNORMAL PSYCH.

In view of some existing confusion regarding the requirements for membership in this Division, the Membership Committee has drawn up the following statement. You are urged to call it to the attention of any colleagues seeking membership in the Division.

##### A. By-Law Requirements

1. Before a person can apply for membership in the Division he must first be a member of the APA. He joins by submitting APA application blanks directly to the Central Office of the APA. If he meets the APA membership requirements of (a) having a doctor's degree based in part upon a psychological dissertation and conferred by a graduate school of recognized standing; or (b) has completed at least 2 years of graduate work in psychology in a recognized graduate school or 1 year of graduate study plus a year of experience in professional work that is psychological in nature and who, at the time of application, is devoting full time to professional or graduate work that is primarily psychological in nature; or (c) is a scientist, educator, or other distinguished person whom the Board of Directors may recommend for sufficient reason, he is elected an Associate by the APA Board of Directors.

2. The Associate may then apply to the Division for membership as an (a) Associate; or (b) Fellow in Clinical Psychology; or (c) Fellow in Abnormal Psychology.

3. The minimum qualifications of an Associate in the Division are (a) the requirements

of an Associate of the APA, and (b) not less than 2 years of successful part-time clinical experience, or its accumulated equivalent, such as to yield a presumption of reasonable competence in clinical psychology, or (c) 2 years of experience in professional work that is psychological in character in the field of abnormal psychology.

4. The minimum standards for Fellow in Clinical Psychology are (a) the requirements of a Fellow of the APA which are (1) a doctor's degree based in part upon a psychological dissertation conferred by a graduate school of recognized standing, except when waived in special cases by the Council of Representatives. The basis for waiving the doctor's degree as a requirement of Fellowship shall be acceptable published research contributions to psychology at least equivalent to a doctoral dissertation in psychology; (2) prior membership as an Associate, and (3) 5 years of acceptable professional experience subsequent to the granting of the doctoral degree; and (b) 5 years of successful full-time clinical practice, or its accumulated equivalent, such as to yield a presumption of professional competence in clinical psychology. If the applicant for Fellowship status is approved by the Division, he is then recommended for that status to the Council of Representatives who, if they approve, then elect him as a Fellow.

5. The minimum standards for Fellow in Abnormal Psychology are (a) the requirements of a Fellow of the APA and (b) either acceptable published research in abnormal psychology beyond the doctoral degree, or 5 years of acceptable professional experience in abnormal psychology beyond the doctoral degree.

6. Division Affiliates. Persons who are competent in related fields but who either do not qualify for Association or Division membership, or who do not wish such membership. They are not members of the Division, may not vote or hold office but may participate in the scientific and professional meetings of the Division. Affiliates shall be designated by majority vote of the Executive Committee, upon recommendation of the Committee on Membership, following application to the Secretary-Treasurer and endorsement by one member of the Division. An affiliation may be terminated by a majority vote of the Executive Committee if the Affiliate no longer qualifies.

#### B. Procedures and Policies

1. The applicant writes to the Office of the Division Secretary requesting the necessary application blanks. All applications must be completed before February 15th to be considered for election of that year.

2. Grandfather rights have been abolished as of September, 1949.

3. Diplomate status is not in itself acceptable for the above requirements. It is, however, evidence of professional competence.

4. Professional competence in clinical psychology is defined as competence in (1) interview or history procedures (2) techniques of psychological testing or personality evaluation (3) the synthesis of case evidence, and (4) therapeutic or guidance counselling.

5. The Committee has considered that a "year" is an academic year for those in academic posts and the regular year for those in non-academic posts. In answering the question, "What is clinical practice?", we decided that (a) it does not include lecture courses in any aspect of clinical psychology; (b) it does include diagnosis and therapy with patients, supervision of students in clinical, laboratory and practicum work, and supervision of subordinates in clinical work; (c) we accepted experience as a school psychologist unless we knew that the training required for the job was inadequate and (d) experience in college personnel work was accepted up to a maximum of 2 years but the applicant would have to have other types of experience. We also considered experience in vocational guidance and as a personal counsellor in the VA. We did not count as satisfactory experience that was gained as an industrial consultant.

6. "Acceptable professional experience in abnormal psychology" is interpreted as teaching at least one course in the field of abnormal psychology (e.g., abnormal psychology, psychotherapy, mental hygiene). We considered one 2 semester course as equaling one year of experience or research in abnormal psychology. Clinical practice cannot be counted for the full amount of experience in abnormal.

7. Other problems of interpretation such as standards for acceptable published research and acceptability of private practice for professional experience have not been clarified sufficiently for a statement now. They will be discussed at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

#### CORRECTIONS

Owing to similarities of names several members were not listed in the APA Directory as belonging to this Division. The following names should be added to the list of Associates of Division 12: Bernard Berkowitz, Charles H. Honzik, Charles E. Thompson, and Mary Alice White.

#### ADDITIONS TO COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Committee on Relation to Educational Psychology: Paul E. Eiserer, Chairman; Ethel Cornell; Glenn Ramsey

Committee on Publication Outlets in Clinical Psychology: Martin Scheerer

Committee on Interprofessional Relations: Dr. Paul Huston

#### NEWS OF LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

In several metropolitan centers, local clinical psychological groups have been formed. They are usually concerned with the developing professional problems in the field, as well as with scientific ones. The Newsletter will be glad to publish information on these groups.

LOS ANGELES: Clinical psychologists in part- or full-time private practice, who are APA members, are now holding monthly meetings. Officers are Dr. Barney Katz, Chairman, Dr. J.A.M. Kimber, Secretary. Their prospective program includes discussion of

The legal aspects of private practice  
The role of the clinical psychologist  
Codes of ethics in private practice  
The problem of licensing  
Attitudes toward training standards

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The next Newsletter will contain a call for nominations for officers and ballots on several proposed amendments to the By-Laws.



